

# Researchers assess cognitive impairment in patients with breast cancer

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A recent analysis of published studies estimates that one-quarter of adults with breast cancer have cognitive impairment before starting therapy. The analysis, which is published in *Psycho-Oncology*, also found that many patients' cognitive function declines after receiving chemotherapy, endocrine therapy, and/or hormone therapy for breast

cancer.

"Our results suggest that cancer-related and personal factors may make a significant contribution to cognitive functioning," said lead author Aicha Dijkshoorn, of the University Medical Center Utrecht, in the Netherlands.

The authors noted that the findings from different studies were quite diverse, and some even reported cognitive improvements in patients after treatment. They stressed the importance of evaluating and addressing cognitive function, ideally over time, in patients with [breast cancer](#).

[World Cancer Day](#) is February 4th.

**More information:** *Psycho-Oncology* (2021). [DOI: 10.1002/pon.5623](https://doi.org/10.1002/pon.5623)

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